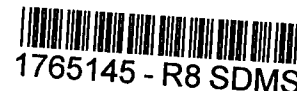


Attn: Sheldon Muller
 Ramon 04/14/2003



CONSENT FOR ACCESS TO PROPERTY

Name of Property Owner:

Rico Properties, Limited Liability Company
 11 S. Glasgow Ave.
 Rico, CO 81332

Property Subject to Consent for Access:

The property subject to this Consent for Access ("Property") is located in or near Rico, Colorado and consists of real property in the vicinity of the St. Louis Tunnel (including the nearby settling ponds), the Blaine Tunnel, the Rico-Argentine mill, the Argentine tailings, the Columbia Tailings, and the Santa Cruz Mine Area. The Property includes the following claims and tracts of land:

<u>Claim or Tract</u>	<u>Patent No.</u>	<u>Mineral Survey No.</u>
Catskill	21923	7062
Denver	23428	7601
Bigstrike	23428	7601
Elliott Millsite	9764	1536B
Hardscrabble	27326	8070
Homestake and Little Cora Consolidated Placers	14903	410
Last Chance	27745	8622
Martha	1115034	20619
Mervyn	1115034	20619
Santa Cruz	25864	6132 AM
Burchard	27326	8070
RGS Tract		
Roys Tract		
RGS Tract South		
Tremble Tract East		
RGS Wye Tract		

<u>Claim or Tract</u>	<u>Patent No.</u>	<u>Mineral Survey No.</u>
Winkfield Tract East		
A.E. Arms Tract North		
F.G. Day Tract		
A.E. Arms Tract South		
Max Boehmer Tract		

I consent to officers, employees, and authorized representatives of the United States Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) entering and having continued access to the Property from April 16, 2003 through April 25, 2003 for the following purposes:

1. Conducting field inspections and investigations;
2. Taking samples of air, soil, water and materials stored or disposed of on or adjacent to the Property; and
3. Taking samples of any solids or liquids stored or disposed of on or adjacent to the Property;

I realize that these actions are undertaken pursuant to EPA's response and enforcement responsibilities under the Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation and Liability Act (CERCLA or Superfund), 42 U.S.C. § 9601 et seq.

I certify that I am legally authorized to grant the above-described access on behalf of Rico Properties, LLC.


Stanley A. Foster, Manager

4-16-03
Date